IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 4, line 21 and ending at line 23, as follows:

--In the following, the image forming apparatus of the present invention will be explained in detail, ~~details~~ with reference to the accompanying drawings.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 6, line 20 and ending at line 27, as follows:

--In a position opposed to the opposed roller 16 across the intermediate transferring belt 5, there is provided secondary transfer means such as a secondary transfer roller 9, which transfers the toner image from the intermediate transferring belt 5 to a transfer material P. The secondary transfer roller 9 is given a secondary transfer bias at a secondary transfer operation.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 21 and ending at page 8, line 5, as follows:

--Thus, ~~Thus~~ positively charged secondary transfer residual toner, on the intermediate transferring belt 5, is electrostatically transferred, at the primary transferring portion where the primary transfer roller 8 is provided, onto the photosensitive drum 1 under an application of a bias of a polarity the same as that of the ordinary primary transfer bias, whereby the secondary transfer residual toner is eliminated from the intermediate transferring belt 5. Thus, the ICL roller 15, the primary transfer roller 8, the photosensitive drum 1 and the power source for the primary transfer bias constitute cleaning means.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 8, line 6 and ending at line 15, as follows:

--Also for increasing the number of prints in a continuous printing operation, there is executed a so-called ~~so-called a~~ cleaning operation simultaneous with transfer in which a first-color image of a next image is transferred from the photosensitive drum 1 onto the intermediate transferring belt 5 at the transfer of the residual toner from the intermediate transfer belt 5 onto the photosensitive drum 1, because a same bias voltage can be utilized for the primary transfer operation and the cleaning operation.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 9, line 23 and ending at page 10, line 2, as follows:

--In the present embodiment, in a position downstream of the developing position in the rotating direction A of the photosensitive drum 1, an endless intermediate transferring belt 5 is supported by plural rollers and is moved (rotated) in a direction B, at a peripheral speed substantially the same as that of the photosensitive drum 1.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 11, line 17 and ending at page 12, line 10, as follows:

--As the cleaning means for the intermediate transferring belt 5 of the present embodiment, the ICL power source 19 supplies the ICL roller 15 with a bias voltage formed by superposing a sinusoidal wave of a frequency of 2 kHz and an amplitude of 2 kV with a DC voltage of 1 kV. Thus, ~~Thus~~ the secondary transfer residual toner is given a charge, and is charged in a positive polarity which is opposite to the polarity in the

developing operation. The secondary transfer residual toner, thus positively charged, is transferred to the photosensitive drum 1 at the primary transfer in a next image formation, thereby being eliminated from the intermediate transferring belt 5. Thus, ~~Thus~~ the cleaning of ~~to~~ the photosensitive drum 1 is achieved by an electric field formed between the intermediate transferring belt 5 and the photosensitive drum 1. Then, ~~Then~~ the secondary transfer residual toner, transferred onto the photosensitive drum 1, is cleaned from the photosensitive drum 1 by a cleaning blade 20 constituting cleaning means for the photosensitive drum 1.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 16, line 1 and ending at page 17, line 5, as follows:

--In a ~~In~~ so-called pre-rotation operation at the start of power supply, there were executed operations similar to the cleaning step for the intermediate transferring belt 5, by forming a toner image (yellow toner image which is a first color image in this case) in an area at least equal to a printable area of the intermediate transferring belt 5 (one turn of the intermediate transferring belt 5 in this case), then applying a bias to the ICL roller 15 to inversely charge the yellow toner image formed on the intermediate transferring belt 5 without executing a secondary transfer step, and returning the toner onto the photosensitive drum 1. Thus, the <second mode> is executed both in case the intermediate transferring belt 5 is new and ~~in case~~ after a prolonged pause. In the above-described step, the effect was confirmed by changing the proportion of toner to be formed. In addition to a solid image with a proportion of 100%, halftone images of predetermined proportions were formed for one turn of the intermediate transferring belt 5. After the output of a halftone

image of a predetermined proportion, a character image was output, and then a halftone image was output to confirm whether a negative ghost image was output. Results of evaluation are shown in the following. In a rating A, no generation of a negative ghost image was observed. In a rating B, a negative ghost image was observed only very slightly, but was of such a slight level as to be hidden in other image unevenness. A rating C indicates a level not much different from a state not executing the <second mode>.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 18, line 4 and ending at line 16, as follows:

--Also in the present experiment, it was confirmed that a cleaning failure was generated on the photosensitive drum 1 when the image ratio increased. At an image ratio equal to or higher than 90%, an amount of the toner recovered on the photosensitive drum 1 increases and the toner passes through under the cleaning blade 20 because of the recovered toner amount becomes larger than that in the ordinary state. This phenomenon can be coped with by increasing an intrusion amount of the cleaning blade 20 or increasing a setting angle thereof, but may also result in a drawback such as a winding-up of the cleaning blade.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 21, line 4 and ending at line 18, as follows:

--When a power supply is turned on (S1), the CPU 22 of the main body of the image forming apparatus accesses to the non-volatile memory medium 21 (S2), thereby reading a print number (X) (S3). There is discriminated whether X is 0 (S4), and, in case

X ≠ 0, an ordinary print ready state is reached (S5), whereupon the operation is terminated

(S7). In case X = 0, indicating that the intermediate transferring belt 5 is new, an

aforementioned image formation is executing in at least a printable area of the intermediate

transferring belt 5 and a cleaning step for the intermediate transferring belt 5 (<second

mode>) is executed (S6). Thereafter, ~~Thereafter~~ the print ready state is reached (S6), ~~(S6)~~

whereupon the operation is terminated (S7).--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 21, line 19 and ending at line

23, as follows:

--An experiment similar to that in ~~the~~ embodiment 1 in the above-explained

configuration provided the following results.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 24, line 17 and ending at line

27, as follows:

--The present embodiment prevents ~~allows to prevent~~ drawbacks that may

appear particularly when an image with a low image ratio is output frequently. For

example, if a solid white image is output frequently, the image forming apparatus is

operated often but the toner is scarcely deposited on the intermediate transferring belt 5. In

the present embodiment, the intermediate transferring belt 5 is periodically coated with the

toner even under such situation, so that the intermediate transferring belt 5 can be used

with a stable surface state any time.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 25, line 13 and ending at line 17, as follows:

--The present invention, ~~invention~~ explained in the foregoing, secures ~~foregoing allows to secure~~ a constantly stable transfer efficiency in an image forming apparatus, thereby realizing a satisfactory image output without image defect.--